



8050 SW WARM SPRINGS STREET

SUITE 200 P.O. BOX 2330

Received & inspected

TUALATIN, OR 97062 TEL 503.612.4400 FAX 503.612.4401 www.gvnw.com

JUN 18 2015

FCC Mail Room

June 16, 2015

REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

VIA Courier

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communication Commission Office of the Secretary 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re:

Confidential Financial Information Subject to Protective Order in WC Docket Nos. 14-58, 07-135, 05-337, 03-109, CC Docket Nos. 01-92, 96-45, GN Docket No. 09-51, WT Docket No. 10-208. Before the Federal Communications Commission.

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection, 2015

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. ("ASTAC") (dba ASTAC Wireless LLC-SAC 619010), GVNW Consulting, Inc. hereby submits the attached redacted and confidential versions of its "FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection" information pursuant to sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules, as filed with the Universal Service Administrative Company. A copy is also being submitted to the Public Utility Commission of Alaska.

ASTAC requests confidential treatment pursuant to sections 0.457 and 0.459 of the Commission's rules for those items in the annual Board Meeting Minutes not related to the Tribal Engagement Obligation required by section 54.313(a)(9). As a matter of policy, the information contained in the Board Meeting Minutes is only available to the membership of the Cooperative, not the general public.

In accordance with the Protective Order, two redacted copies marked "REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION" and one non redacted confidential version marked "CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION" are being filed with the Commission. A redacted copy has also been filed via the Electronic Comment Filing System.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 503-612-4418.

Sincerely.

Ken Snow

GVNW Consulting, Inc.

No. of Copies rec'd

List ABCDE

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Charles Tyler, FCC Telecommunications Access Policy Division (two copies, confidential)

J. Smith, GVNW

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to be completed by the reporting carrier, if the reporting carrier is filing annual reporting on its own behalp

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or Li Recipients I certify that I am an officer of the reporting certier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments accurate. Plants of Reporting Certific. Astrony Mireleas 120 - CL Signature of Authorized Officer: CERTIFIED ORIZERS ORIZERS Printed name of Authorized Officer: CLOVER Model 1 Itide or position of Authorized Officer: CEO Talephone number of Authorized Officer: 8075648880 ext. Study Area Code of Reporting Certific. 619010 Filing Dipe Date for this form: 97/03/2015 Fersons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfailure under the Communications Act of 1994, 47 U.S.C. \$5.00, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under the Communications Act of 1994, 47 U.S.C. \$5.00, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under the Communications Act of 1994, 47 U.S.C. \$5.00, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under the Communications Act of 1994, 47 U.S.C. \$5.00, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under the Communications Act of 1994, 47 U.S.C. \$5.00, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under the United States Code, 10 U.S.C. \$1001.

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To be completed by the reporting carrier, if an agent is filing annual reports on the carrier's behalf:

Certification of Officer to Auth	orize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or Li Recipiants on Behalf of Reporting Carrier
i sertify that (Hinne of Agent). Dise certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my agent) and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and	is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier, responsibilities include arraining the securacy of the smooth data reporting requirements provided to the authorized data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.
Name of Authorized Agents	
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Signature of Authorized Officers	Dates
Printed name of Authorized Officers	
Title or position of Authorized Officers	
Telephone number of Authorized Officers	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:
Persons willfully making false statements on this form car	t be presided by line or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. \$\$ 502, 100 (b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. \$ 1001.

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Agent Author	ed to File Annual Reports for CAF or Li Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Cerrier
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Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agents	Date:
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Attachments

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<703> Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date
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1 1	Exchange (LEC)	SACROTTO	Rate Type	Residential Local Service Rate	State Saboriber Like Chorne	State Universal Service Fee	Mendatory Extended Area Service Charge	Total per line lates and Fee
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	Atgasuk		17.2	39.88	0.0	2.34	0.0	44.33
H	Barrow		23	39,36	0.0	2.34	0.0	23.23
N. C.	Deadhorse		72	39.89	0.0	2.34	0.0	42.33
ar J	Kaktovik		27.	39.93	0-0	2.34	0.0	42.33
xx 3	Muigsut		路	19.99	0.0	2.34	0.0	42.33
×	Point Hope		2	39,99	0.0	2.34	0.0	42.33
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Affiliates	S.	Doing Boriness As Company or Brand Designation
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Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. Wireless	619010	ASTAC, ASTAC Wireless (HCL, ICLS, LCC)
ASTAC ID LLC		ASTRC LD
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54.313(a)(5) Satisfactions of Consumer Protection and Service Quality Standards

Consumer Protection

Voice

Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. compiles with the requirements of 47 CFR Part 64 Subpart U, Customer Proprietary Network Information and the Federal Trade Commission Red Flag rules to prevent identity theft. A manual for each of those programs is in place and is part of the employees' handbook. Employee training is conducted annually and new hires are instructed on the programs as required by their job functions. This applies to all lines of business (voice, broadband, wireless and lifeline).

Service Quality Standards

Voice

Arctic Siope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. complies with the service standards of the State of Alaska promulgated in Alaska Statues, Title 3 Commerce, Community, and Economic Development Part 7 Regulatory Commission of Alaska, 3 AAC 52.200-3, AAC 52.340, Telephone Utilities and Alaska Administrative Code 3 AAC 53.700 State Telecommunications Modernization. This applies to all lines of business (voice, broadband, wireless and lifeline).

Functionality in Emergency Situations

In 7 of our village locations (Point Hope, Point Lay, Wainwright, Atqasuk, Nuiqsut, Kaktovik and Anaktuvuk Pass) we have fully redundant Redcom local exchange switches. The central offices that these switches are installed in are equipped with back up batteries designed to support an 8 hour power disruption. In addition, each location has a standby generator that will come on line automatically in the event of the loss of commercial power. These generators are equipped with external fuel tanks that will provide for 4 or 5 days of unattended operation. We have village reps in these villages that can check the site during an emergency and have fuel delivered if necessary.

In our two largest exchanges, Barrow and Deadhorse we have fully redundant DMS 10 local exchange switches. The central offices these switches are installed in are equipped with back up batteries to support an 8 hour power disruption. In addition, each location has a standby generator that will come on line automatically in the event of loss of commercial power. These generators are equipped with external fuel tanks that will provide for 4 or 5 days of unattended operation. It addition these locations are manned 7 days a week for emergency response.

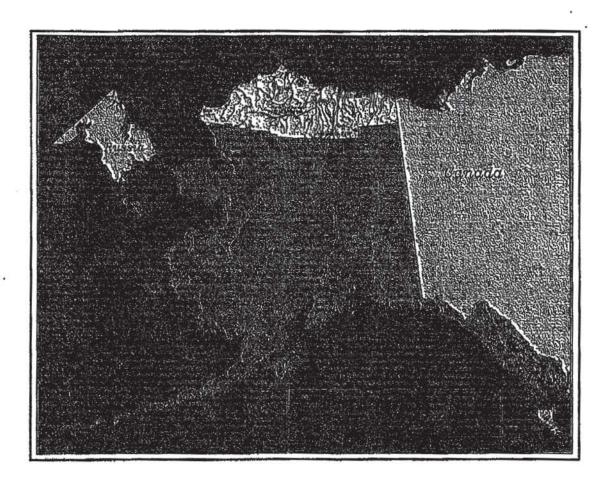
In both Barrow and Deadhorse we have battery back at all remote locations and any locations without permanent standby generators are supported by portable generators.

In all locations we work with the two long distance carriers to reroute traffic as required to recover from network outages or traffic spikes. We have redundant routes to both major carriers.

Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. Certification of Tribal Engagement For the Year Ending December 31, 2014



<u>Service Area Description</u>: Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. (ASTAC) serves the North Slope Region of Alaska. Our service area encompasses over 89,000 square miles and has seven traditional Native villages, the City of Barrow and the oilfields of Prudhoe Bay scattered across that expanse. With the exception of Prudhoe Bay, which is built out from the terminus of the Dalton Highway, all other villages can only be reached year round by aircraft.



<u>Tribal Entities:</u> There are ten federally recognized Tribal Entities within ASTAC's serving area. Each of the seven villages and Barrow has a Native Village organization. Arctic Slope Native Association (ASNA) is the Tribal Entity that manages the Samuel Simmonds Memorial Hospital in Barrow and the Inupiat Communities of the Arctic Slope (ICAS) serves as an "umbrelia" government for eight remote Inupiat villages known as the inupiat "community" spread out along the Arctic Ocean and in the Interior, just above the Arctic Circle.

The Process: Following the guidelines in DA 12-1165, ASTAC's Executive Leadership Team made multiple attempts to either coordinate telephonic meetings for Tribal Engagement or meet the requirement through proxy of the engagement process by the tribal entity to the village's elected Director to the ASTAC Board. Tribal leadership points of contact were updated to reflect current information (Table). A cover letter was created to explain the new process and asking for the Tribal Entity's cooperation in meeting our Tribal Engagement obligations. The cover letter borrowed heavily from DA 12-1165. The cover letter was attached to a Tribal Pre-meeting questionnaire which also extracted the questions from DA 12-1165 for Native leaders to consider prior to the telephonic engagement meeting. These two documents were sent on October 17, 2014. An example of the cover letter and a blank Tribal Pre-meeting Questionnaire can be found at (Table).

The cover letter and pre-meeting questionnaire did not elicit a response from any of the Tribal entities who have not asked to be represented by their Tribe's Director on the ASTAC Board. Following the mailing of the first letter, ASTAC had a regularly scheduled Board meeting on October 22d, where the Board approved numerous ongoing engagement items. Minutes for the Open portion of the meeting, including Board approval of engagement activities can be found at (2002). At this same Board meeting, Directors residing in the 5 communities who had been non-responsive to the engagement interaction were asked to do a personal follow up with the Tribal entity and all agreed to do so. The next step in the process was to do a second mailing of the engagement letter on December 10, 2013 with a cover letter reintroducing what we were trying to achieve (2014). Following this mailing, Charlie Carpenter, Chief of Network Operations requested a telephonic meeting. Telephonic logs for each Tribal Entity who did not proxy representation to their elected Director can be found at (2003).

Following multiple attempts to engage Tribal Leadership from October through December 2014, we were successful in connecting with 60% (six) of the ten Tribal entities. A recurring theme that was expressed in 2012 through 2014 was the appropriateness of using the ASTAC elected Board member as a representative of many of the Tribal entities, since the Board member is also a member of the Tribal entity, has received telecom specific training, and sets the direction for the Cooperative based on the will of the people who elect them. We received a written request to do so from the Native Villages of Barrow and Walnwright and verbal authorization from the Native Villages of Kaktovik, Nulqsut, Point Hope, and Anaktuvuk Pass (1998).

I certify that the above description of ASTAC's Tribal Engagement is a fair and accurate documentation of our efforts and that a copy of this certification has been provided via USPS to all of our Tribal entities.

Stor Menun

December 31, 2014

Stephen L. Merriam, CEO

Date

2014 Tribal Leadership Roster

ICAS-Barrow Doreen Lempe, CEO

ASNA Marie Carroll, Director

Native Village Tribal Council-Presidents

Thomas Olemaun Barrow
Edward Rexford Sr. Kaktovik
Howard Patkotak Walnwright
Margaret Pardue Nulqist

Jack Schaffer Pt. Hope Margaret Ahngasak Atqasuk

Pres. Village Council Anaktuvuk Pass Individual stepped down, no one at this time

Leo Ferreira Pt. Lay



Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. 4300 B Street, Suite 501, Anchorage, AK 99503 9275633989 1.8004786409 1;907563-1932

October 17, 2014

Tab 2

Mr. Howard Patkotak, President Village of Wainwright P.O. Box 143 Wainwright, AK 99782

Dear Mr. Patkotak;

This letter is intended to help facilitate engagement between Tribal government officials and ASTAC, which provides service on Tribal lands with the use of Universal Service Fund (USF) support. In 2012, ASTAC met with all tribal entities on the North Slope. Based on feedback we received from Tribal leadership, we are amending our process to better collaborate with you.

A number of tribal entities pointed out that ASTAC has an elected Director to our Board representing your community. All Directors receive extensive industry training in telecommunications, meet four times yearly to set direction for the Cooperative and could potentially be a great resource in directing the Cooperative relative to your planning. It was highly suggested that the Director coordinate with you and speak for your tribal entity, engaging the Cooperative management team on your behalf. This would be much more responsive to your evolving needs due to the quarterly standing Board meetings where you could be represented. It would also save the membership a significant amount of money. For instance, in-person tribal engagement in 2012 cost the Cooperative almost \$28,000. Five of the ten tribal entities for the North Slope have adopted this approach in 2013, saving the membership significant money better used to upgrade the network for future offerings.

If this alternative approach makes sense to you, please email me at steve@astac.net and confirm your interest in using our Board member as your organization's representative for telecommunications issues, and we will take it from there. Thanks for your consideration of this tailored approach.

Best Regards,

Stephen Merriam, CBO

ASTAC, Serving the North Slope of Alaska since 1980